

Claim Amendments

Please add new claims 17-23 as follows:

1. (previously presented) A container for storing items, comprising:
 - a container bottom;
 - a side wall extending upward from said bottom and terminating in a rim defining the periphery of said container, said side wall tapering from top to bottom;
 - a lid releasably covering said container;
 - an annular surface discontinuity disposed on said side wall intermediate said rim and said container bottom; and
 - a tubular layer of shrinkwrap enveloping said tapered side wall and an outer periphery of the lid to help secure the lid to the side wall; said shrinkwrap being separable from the lid and rim to allow the lid to be removed while said layer of shrinkwrap is formed to and covers said surface discontinuity and conforms to the shape thereof to help hold the enveloping shrinkwrap in place on the sidewall when the lid is removed; and
 - a non-adhesive label trapped between the shrinkwrap and the side wall, said label remaining trapped after the lid is removed.
- 2-4. (cancelled)
5. (previously presented) The container of claim 1, further comprising a label adhesively affixed to the outside of said shrinkwrap layer about said side wall.
6. (original) The container of claim 2, wherein said shrinkwrap layer comprises an integral piece of shrink wrap.
7. (original) The container of claim 2, wherein said shrinkwrap layer covers the outer periphery of said lid.
8. (original) The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises an indentation.

9. (previously presented) The container of claim 8, wherein said indentation is proximal to the container bottom.

10. (original) The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a plurality of indentations disposed on said side wall.

11. (withdrawn) The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a protuberance disposed on said side wall.

12. (withdrawn) The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a plurality of protuberances disposed on said side wall.

13-16. (canceled)

17. (new) A method of sealing a container for storing items comprising the steps of:

a) providing a container, wherein the container comprises:

a container bottom;

a side wall extending upward from said bottom and terminating in a rim defining the periphery of said container, said side wall tapering from top to bottom;

a lid releasably covering said container; and

an annular surface discontinuity disposed on said side wall intermediate said rim and said container bottom;

b) enveloping the tapered side wall and an outer periphery of the lid with a tubular layer of shrinkwrap;

c) positioning a non-adhesive label between the shrinkwrap and the side wall; and

d) securing the lid to the side wall with the shrinkwrap, wherein said shrinkwrap is separable from the lid and rim to allow the lid to be removed while said layer of shrinkwrap is formed to and covers said surface discontinuity and conforms to the shape thereof to help hold the enveloping shrinkwrap in place on the sidewall when

the lid is removed and wherein the non-adhesive label is trapped between the shrinkwrap and the side wall, said label remaining trapped after the lid is removed.

18. (new) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of adhesively affixing a label to the outside of said shrinkwrap layer about said side wall.

19. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said shrinkwrap layer comprises an integral piece of shrink wrap.

20. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said shrinkwrap layer covers the outer periphery of said lid.

21. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises an indentation.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein said indentation is proximal to the container bottom.

23. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a plurality of indentations disposed on said side wall.